

Serial No. 09/003,812

September 23, 2004
Response to Official Action Dated April 23, 2004**REMARKS**

Applicants' invention is set forth in remaining claims 9-11, as amended herein.

In the pending Official Action, the Examiner has allowed claims 9 and 11. However, claims 8 and 10 were rejected.

In order to expedite prosecution, applicants hereby cancel claim 8. Moreover, claim 10, which was dependent from claim 8, is amended to depend from claim 9, instead. Therefore, the rejection of claims 8 and 10 is mooted hereby.

Of the remaining claims 9-11, claims 9 and 11 have been allowed, and claim 10 now depends from an allowed claim and, at least for that reason alone, is allowable. It is noted, however, that claim 10 adds still further recitation of inventive features. However, in view of allowability of the claim, it is not necessary to present further arguments for patentability thereof.

Accordingly, each of the claims remaining in the application is either allowed or dependent on an allowed claim. Therefore, all claims in the application are allowable and an early notice of allowance of the application is in order and is thus requested.

Having thus eliminated or overcome all bases for rejection of or objection to the application or any of its components, and in view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of

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the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in connection with the application.

Respectfully submitted,
CLARK & BRODY



Israel Gopstein
Registration No. 27,333

1750 K Street, N.W. Suite 600
(202) 835-1111
(202) 835-1755 (fax)
Washington, D.C. 20006
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